

**Economics 302**  
**Intermediate Macroeconomics**  
**Fall 2009**

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**Text:**

Macroeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw, seventh edition, Worth Publishers.

**Overview:**

Why are some countries richer than others? How does monetary and fiscal policy affect macroeconomic aggregates like GDP, employment, interest rates, and inflation rates? What are the primary causes of recessions and expansions of the economy? How are interest rates and exchange rates determined? This class will consider these topics as well as others. In addition, an effort will be made to relate the classroom discussion to current economic issues.

**Course Website:**

Practice questions and problems will be available on the course website. In addition, important information with regard to exams and announcements will be posted on the website. It is your responsibility to check the website for announcements, assignments, and any possible changes related to the course plan.

**Course Structure and Grading Policy:**

**1. Lectures**

There will be two lectures and a discussion section each week. Students are expected to have completed the reading prior to lecture. Attendance is not mandatory at the lectures, but exams will focus primarily on material presented in lecture. A second reading of the textbook after the lecture will greatly enhance your understanding of the ideas being presented.

## 2. Grades

There will be two midterm exams and a final exam as well as five homework assignments, and four quizzes. The weights of these assignments are as follows:

<b>Midterm 1:</b>	<b>25% of your grade</b>
<b>Midterm 2:</b>	<b>25% of your grade</b>
<b>Final Exam:</b>	<b>30% of your grade</b>
<b>Quizzes (four):</b>	<b>10% of your grade</b>
<b>Homework (five):</b>	<b>10% of your grade</b>

Although attendance is not required at class you are responsible for any material, written assignments, reading material, etc. covered or assigned in class.

The format of the midterm exams and the final will be announced in class prior to the date of the exams.

Midterm exams will be held in class during the class meeting time. Students arriving late to class will not receive additional time for the exam. Students on exam days should plan to arrive at class ten minutes early so that the exam can start on time.

**THERE ARE NO MAKEUP MIDTERM EXAMS.** If you miss an exam and have a valid excuse your final exam weight will be increased to 55% to make up for the missing midterm. If you miss an exam without a valid excuse you will receive a zero on that midterm. Job interviews and travel plans (except as required by university-sponsored activities) do not constitute valid excuses for missing an exam. Students should plan to be in Madison, Wisconsin until they take the final exam. If you are unable to take an exam because of a valid excuse, please contact me in advance, if possible.

The **FINAL EXAM** will be held in at the University scheduled date and time of **Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at 7:45 a.m.** It will be comprehensive and cumulative.

Homework assignments will be due on their assigned dates at the large lecture. **NO LATE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP HOMEWORK.** If you fail to turn in homework you will receive a zero for that homework. All homework must be turned in at class. Students may work together on homework assignments, but must submit their own answers independently. Sharing knowledge does not mean sharing homework. Answers that are

**copies of one another will be treated as violations of academic integrity and will be punished accordingly.**

**3. Exam Information and Exam Dates**

Midterm I: Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Midterm II: Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at 7:45 a.m.

**4. Homework Information and Homework Due Dates**

Homework #1 due Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Homework #2 due Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Homework #3 due Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Homework #4 due Wednesday, November 11, 2009

Homework #5 due Wednesday, December 9, 2009

**5. Quiz Dates**

Quiz #1: Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Quiz #2: Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Quiz #3: Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Quiz #4: Wednesday, December 2, 2009

**6. Other Relevant Information**

**THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CREDIT GIVEN IN THE COURSE.**

**NO EXAM GRADES WILL BE DROPPED. LOW GRADES WILL NOT BE DROPPED.**

**THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP EXAMS TO REPLACE MIDTERMS THAT HAVE BEEN MISSED.**

## 7. Grades

Your grade will be based on your overall performance. The final grade distribution will fall roughly along the following guidelines:

Top 12%: A  
Next 15%: AB  
Next 20%: B  
Next 20%: BC  
Next 20%: C  
Bottom 13%: D and F

### **Tentative Course Outline:**

Dates for reading will be announced in class. The following course outline follows the structure of the textbook. This outline may be adjusted as the class progresses into the spring semester and may need to be adjusted with regard to assignments due to time constraints. Any pertinent announcements will be made in class and posted on the website.

- Introduction to Macroeconomics: Chapters 1 and 2
- Classical Theory: The Economy in the Long Run: Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Growth Theory: The Economy in the Very Long Run: Chapters 7 and 8
- Business Cycle Theory: The Economy in the Short Run: Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13
- Macroeconomic Policy Debates: Chapters 14 and 15
- More on the Microeconomics Behind Macroeconomics: Chapters 16, 17, 18, and 19
- What We Know, What We Don't: Epilogue

## Grievance Procedure

The Department of Economics has developed a grievance procedure by which students may register comments or complaints about a course, an instructor, or a teaching assistant. The Department continues to provide a course evaluation each semester in every class. If you wish to make anonymous complaints to an instructor or teaching assistant, the appropriate vehicle is the course evaluation. If a student has a disagreement with an instructor or teaching assistant, we strongly encourage trying to resolve the dispute with him or her directly. The grievance procedure is designed for situations where neither of these channels is appropriate.

To file a grievance, go to Room 7238 Social Science and request a Course Comment Sheet. When completing the comment sheet, please provide a detailed statement describing what aspects of the course seem unsatisfactory. Sign the sheet, provide student I.D. number, address, phone number, and email address. The Department will investigate comments fully and will respond in writing.

Grievances must be filed in a timely manner. Normally, grievances **MUST BE FILED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE START OF THE FOLLOWING SEMESTER.** This deadline will be waived only under exceptional circumstances.

Your name, address, phone number, email address, and student I.D. number will not be revealed to the instructor or teaching assistant, and will be treated as confidential. The Department needs this information if it becomes necessary for a commenting student to meet with the Department Chair or a nominee to gather additional information. A name and address are necessary to provide a written response.